

GEN

1. Dignity of birth; goodness of extraction.
2. Softness of manners; sweetness of disposition; meekness; tenderness.

My lord Sebastian,
The truth, you speak, doth lack some gentleness. *Shakep.*
Still she retains

Her maiden gentleness, and oft at eve
Visits the herds. *Milt. n.*
The perpetual gentleness and inherent goodness of the Ormond family. *Dryden's Fables, Dedication.*

Changes are brought about silently and insensibly, with all imaginable benignity and gentleness. *Woodward's Nat. Hist.*
Masters must correct their servants with gentleness, prudence, and mercy. *Rogers.*
Women ought not to think gentleness of heart despicable in a man. *Clarissa.*

Kindness; benevolence. Obsolete.
The gentleness of all the gods go with thee. *Shakepeare.*

GENTLESHIP. *n. f.* [from *gentle*.] Carriage of a gentleman. Obsolete.

Some in France, which will needs be gentlemen, have more gentleness in their hat than in their head. *Johnson's Schoolmaster.*

GENTLEMAN. *n. f.* [gentle and woman. See GENTLEMAN.]

1. A woman of birth above the vulgar; a woman well descended.

The gentlewomen of Rome did not suffer their infants to be so long swathed as poorer people. *Abbott's Deser. of the World.*
Doth this fit Protheus

Often resort unto this gentlewoman? *Shakepeare.*
Gentlewomen may do themselves much good by kneeling upon a cushion, and weeding. *Bacon's Natural History.*

2. A woman who waits about the person of one of high rank.

The late queen's gentlewoman, a knight's daughter,
To be her mistress's mistress! *Shakep. Henry VIII.*
Her gentlewomen, like the nereids,
So many mermaids, tended her 't' th' eyes,
And made her bends adornings. *Shakep. Ant. and Cleopatra.*

3. A word of civility or irony.

Now, gentlewoman, you are confessing your enormities; I know it by that hypocritical down-cast look. *Dryden.*

GENTLY. *adv.* [from *gentle*.]

1. Softly; meekly; tenderly; inoffensively; kindly.

My mistress's gently chides the fault I made. *Dryden.*
The mischiefs that come by inadvertency, or ignorance, are but very gently to be taken notice of. *Locke.*

2. Softly; without violence.

Fortune's blows,
When most struck home, being gently warded, craves
A noble cunning. *Shakepeare's Coriolanus.*
In the same island a sort of great bat, as men lie asleep with their legs naked, will suck their blood at a wound so gently made as not to awake them. *Grew's Museum.*

GENTRY. *n. f.* [gentle, gentry, from *gentle*.]

1. Birth; condition.

You are certainly a gentleman,
Clerk-like experienc'd, which no less adorns
Our gentry than our parents' noble name,
In whose success we are gentle. *Shakep. Winter's Tale.*

2. Class of people above the vulgar; those between the vulgar and the nobility.

They slaughtered many of the gentry, for whom no sex or age could be accepted for excuse. *Sidney.*
Let states, that aim at greatness, take heed how their nobility and gentry multiply too fast. *Bacon's Orator. Ration.*

How cheerfully the hawkers cry
A satire, and the gentry buy. *Swift.*

2. A term of civility real or ironical.

The many-colour'd gentry there above,
By turns are rul'd by tumult and by love. *Prior.*

3. Civility; complaisance. Obsolete.

Shew us so much gentry and good-will,
As to extend your time with us a-while. *Shakep. Hamlet.*

GENUFECTION. *n. f.* [genuflexion, French; genu and flecto, Latin.] The act of bending the knee; adoration expressed by bending the knee.

Here they make use of all the rites of adoration, genuflections, wax-candles, incense, oblations, prayers only excepted. *Stillingfleet's Defence of Disc. on Rom. Idol.*

GENUINE. *adj.* [genuinus, Latin.] Not spurious; not counterfeit; real; natural; true.

Experiments were at one time tried with genuine materials, and at another time with sophisticated ones. *Boyle.*
The belief and remembrance, and love and fear of God, have so great influence to make men religious, that where any of these is, the rest, together with the true and genuine effects of them, are supposed to be. *Tillotson's Sermons.*

A sudden darkness covers all;
True genuine night: night added to the groves:
The fogs are blown full in the face of heaven. *Dryd. Oedip.*

GENUINELY. *adv.* [from *genuine*.] Without adulteration; without foreign admixtures; naturally.

GEO

There is another agent able to analyze compound bodies less violently, more genuinely, and more universally than the fire. *Boyle.*

GENUINENESS. *n. f.* [from *genuine*.] Freedom from any thing counterfeit; freedom from adulteration; purity; natural state.

It is not essential to the genuineness of colours to be durable. *Boyle.*

GENUS. *n. f.* [Latin.] In science, a class of being, comprehending under it many species: as quadruped is a genus comprehending under it almost all terrestrial beasts.

A general idea is called by the schools *genus*, and it is one common nature agreeing to several other common natures: so animal is a *genus*, because it agrees to horse, lion, whale, and butterfly. *Watt's Logic.*

If minerals are not convertible into another species, though of the same genus, much less can they be furnished reducible into a species of another genus. *Harvey on Conspiration.*

GEOCENTRICK. *adj.* [*γῆ* and *κέντρον*; *geocentrique*, French.] Applied to a planet or orb having the earth for its centre, or the same centre with the earth. *Harris.*

GEODESIA. *n. f.* [*γεωδαισία*; *geodesie*, French.] That part of geometry which contains the doctrine or art of measuring surfaces, and finding the contents of all plane figures. *Harris.*

GEODETIICAL. *adj.* [from *geodesia*.] Relating to the art of measuring surfaces; comprehending or showing the art of measuring land.

GEOGRAPHER. *n. f.* [*γῆ* and *γραφω*; *geographe*, French.] One who describes the earth according to the position of its different parts.

A greater part of the earth hath ever been peopled than hath been known or described by geographers. *Bacon.*
The bay of Naples is called the Crater by the old geographers. *Addison.*

From sea to sea, from realm to realm I rove,
And grow a meer geographer by love. *Tickell.*

GEOGRAPHICAL. *adj.* [*geographique*, French, from *geographos*.] Relating to geography; belonging to geography.

GEOGRAPHICALLY. *adv.* [from *geographical*.] In a geographical manner; according to the rules of geography.

Minerva lets Ulysses into the knowledge of his country: she geographically describes it to him. *Brown on the Odyssey.*

GEOGRAPHY. *n. f.* [*γῆ* and *γραφω*; *geographie*, Fr.] Geography in a strict sense, signifies the knowledge of the circles of the earth globe, and the situation of the various parts of the earth. When it is taken in a little larger sense, it includes the knowledge of the seas also; and in the largest sense of all, it extends to the various customs, habits, and governments of nations. *Watt.*

Olympus is extolled by the Greeks as attaining unto heaven; but geography makes slight account hereof, when they discourse of Andes or Teneriff. *Brown's Vulgar Errors, b. vi.*

According to ancient fables the Argonauts sailed up the Danube, and from thence passed into the Adriatick, carrying their ships upon their shoulders: a mark of great ignorance in geography. *Arbutnot on Cæsar.*

GEOLOGY. *n. f.* [*γῆ* and *λόγος*.] The doctrine of the earth; the knowledge of the state and nature of the earth.

GEOMANECER. *n. f.* [*γῆ* and *μαίνω*.] A fortune-teller; a caster of figures; a cheat who pretends to foretell futurity by other means than the astrologer.

Fortune-tellers, jugglers, geomancers, and the incantatory impostors, though commonly men of inferior rank, daily delude the vulgar. *Brown's Vulgar Errors, b. i.*

GEOMANCY. *n. f.* [*γῆ* and *μαίνω*; *geomance*, French.] The art of casting figures; the art of foretelling by figures what shall happen.

According to some persons there are four kinds of divination; hydromancy, pyromancy, aeromancy, and geomancy. *Ayliffe's Parergon.*

GEOMAN'TICK. *adj.* [from *geomancy*.] Pertaining to the art of casting figures.

Two geomantick figures were display'd
Above his head, a warrior and a maid;
One when direct, and one when retrograde. *Dryden.*

GEOMETR. *n. f.* [*γεωμετρία*; *geometrie*, French.] One skilled in geometry; a geometrician.

He became one of the chief geometers of his age. *Watt.*
GEOMETRICAL. *adj.* [from *geometrie*, French, from *geometria*.] Pertaining to geometry.

GEOMETRICALLY. *adv.* [from *geometrical*.] Pertaining to geometry.

1. Pertaining to geometry.

A geometrical scheme is let in by the eyes, but the demonstration is discerned by reason. *Morè's Antid. against Atheism.*
This mathematical discipline, by the help of geometrical principles, doth teach to contrive several weights and powers unto motion or rest. *Wilkins's Math. Magic.*

2. Preferred or laid down by geometry.

Mult men take the measure of God just by the same geometrical proportions that he did, that gather'd the height and bigness of Hercules by his foot? *Stillingfleet.*

Does

GER

Does not this wife philosopher assert,
That the vast orb, which casts so fair his beams,
Is such, or not much bigger than he seems?
That the dimensions of his glorious face
Two geometrick feet do scarce surpass? *Blackmore's Creation.*

3. Disposed according to geometry.

Geometrick jasper seemeth of affinity with the lapis sanguinalis described by Boetius; but it is certainly one sort of lapis crystallinus. *Grew's Museum.*

GEOMETRICALLY. *adv.* [from *geometrical*.] According to the laws of geometry.

'Tis possible geometrically to contrive such an artificial motion as shall be of greater swiftness than the revolutions of the heavens.

All the bones, muscles, and vessels of the body are contrived most geometrically, according to the strictest rules of mechanics. *Ray on the Creation.*

GEOMETRICIAN. *n. f.* [*γεωμετρικός*.] One skilled in geometry; a geometer.

How easily does an expert geometrician, with one glance of his eye, take in a complicated diagram, made up of many lines and circles! *Watt's Improvement of the Mind.*

To GEOMETRIZE. *v. n.* [*γεωμετρίω*.] To act according to the laws of geometry.

We obtained good store of crystals, whose figures were differing enough, though prettily shaped, as if nature had at once affected variety in their figuration, and yet confined herself to geometry. *Boyle.*

GEOMETRY. *n. f.* [*γεωμετρία*; *geometrie*, French.] Originally signifies the art of measuring the earth, or any distances or dimensions on or within it: but it is now used for the science of quantity, extension, or magnitude abstractedly considered, without any regard to matter.

Geometry very probably had its first rise in Egypt, where the Nile annually overflowing the country, and covering it with mud, obliged men to distinguish their lands one from another, by the consideration of their figure; and after which, 'tis probable, to be able also to measure the quantity of it, and to know how to plot it, and lay it out again in its just dimensions, figure and proportion: after which, it is likely, a farther contemplation of those draughts and figures helped them to discover many excellent and wonderful properties belonging to them; which speculations were continually improving, and are still to this day. *Geometry* is usually divided into speculative and practical; the former of which contemplates and treats of the properties of continued quantity abstractedly; and the latter applies these speculations and theorems to use and practice, and to the benefit and advantage of mankind. *Harris.*

In the muscles alone there seems to be more geometry than in all the artificial engines in the world. *Ray on the Creation.*

Him also for my censor I disdain,
Who thinks all science, as all virtue, vain;
Who counts geometry and numbers toys,
And with his foot the sacred dust destroys. *Dryd. Pers. Sat.*

GEOGNICAL. *adj.* [*γῆ* and *νόμος*; *geognique*, French.] Relating to agriculture; relating to the cultivation of the ground.

Such expressions are frequent in authors geognical, or such as have treated de re rustica. *Brown's Vulgar Errors, b. vi.*

GEOGNICKS. *n. f.* [*γῆ* and *νόμος*.] The science of cultivating the ground; the doctrine of agriculture.

GEORGE. *n. f.* [Georgius, Latin.]

1. A figure of St. George on horseback worn by the knights of the garter.

Look on my George, I am a gentleman;
Rate me at what thou wilt. *Shakepeare's Henry VI. p. ii.*

2. A brown loaf. Of this sense I know not the original. Cub'd in a cabin, on a mattress laid,
On a brown George, with lousy frockers, fed. *Dryd. Pers.*

GEORICK. *n. f.* [*γεωργικός*; *georgiques*, Fr.] Some part of the science of husbandry put into a pleasing dress, and set off with all the beauties and embellishments of poetry. *Addison.*

GEORICK. *adj.* Relating to the doctrine of agriculture.

Here I peruse the Mantuan's georgick strains,
And learn the labours of Italian swains. *Gay's Rural Sports.*

GEOTICK. *adj.* [from *γῆ*.] Belonging to the earth; terrestrial.

GERENT. *adj.* [gerens, Latin.] Carrying; bearing. *Dist.*

GERALCON. *n. f.* A bird of prey, in size between a vulture and a hawk, and of the greatest strength next to the eagle.

GERMAN. *n. f.* [germanus, French; germanus, Lat.] Brother; one approaching to a brother in proximity of blood: thus the children of brothers or sisters are called cousins german.

They knew it was their cousin german, the famous Amphialus. *Sidney, b. ii.*

And to him said, go now, proud miscreant,
Thyself thy message do to german dear. *Fairy Queen, b. i.*

GES

These Germans did subdue all Germany,
Of whom it hight; but in the end their fire,
With foul repulse, from France was forced to retire. *F. & G.*
Wert thou a bear, thou wouldst be kill'd by the horle;
Wert thou a leopard, thou wert german to the lion, and the spots of thy kindred were juries on thy life. *Shakep. Timon.*

You'll have your nephews neigh to you; you'll have couriers for cousins, and genets for german. *Shakep. Othello.*

GERMAN. *adj.* [germanus, Latin.] Related.

Not he alone shall suffer what wit can make heavy, and vengeance bitter; but those that are german to him, though removed fifty times, shall come under the hangman. *Shakep.*

GERMANDER. *n. f.* [germandrie, French.]

It has small thick leaves, which are fasciated somewhat like those of the oak: the flowers, which are produced at the wings of the leaves, are labiated: the stamina or threads supply the place of the crest, or upper lip: the beard or lower lip of the flower is divided into five parts: the middle segment, which is largest, is hollow like a spoon, and sometimes divided into two parts: the cup of the flower is fistulose. *Miller.*

GERME. *n. f.* [germen, Latin.] A sprout or shoot; that part which grows and spreads.

Whether it be not made out of the germe, or treadle of the egg, doth seem of lesser doubt. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*

GERMIN. *n. f.* [germen, Latin.] A shooting or sprouting seed.

Though palaces and pyramids do slope
Their heads to their foundations; though the treasure
Of nature's germins tumble all together,
Even till destruction ficken; answer me
To what I ask you. *Shakepeare's Macbeth.*

Thou all-shaking thunder,
Strike flat the thick rotundity o' th' world;
Crack nature's mould, all germins spill at once
That make ungrateful man. *Shakepeare's King Lear.*

To GERMINATE. *v. n.* [germino, Latin.] To sprout; to shoot; to bud; to put forth.

This action is furthered by the chalcites, which hath within a spirit that will put forth and germinate, as we see in chymical trials. *Bacon's Natural History.*

The seeds of all kinds of vegetables being planted near the surface of the earth, in a convenient soil, amongst matter proper for the formation of vegetables, would germinate, grow up, and replenish the face of the earth. *Woodward's Nat. Hist.*

GERMINATION. *n. f.* [germination, French, from *germinare*.] The act of sprouting or shooting; growth.

For acceleration of germination, we refer it over unto the place, where we shall handle the subject of plants generally. *Bacon's Natural History.*

The duke of Buckingham had another kind of germination; and surely, had he been a plant, he would have been reckoned among the sponte nascentes. *Wotton.*

There is but little similitude between a terreous humidity and plantal germinations. *Glanv. Scenp. c. 25.*

Suppose the earth should be carried to the great distance of Saturn; there the whole globe would be one frigid zone; there would be no life, no germination. *Bentley's Sermons.*

GERUND. *n. f.* [gerundium, Latin.] In the Latin grammar, a kind of verbal noun, which governs cases like a verb.

GEST. *n. f.* [gestus, Latin.]

1. A deed; an action; an achievement.

Who fair them quites, as him befemed best,
And goodly can discourse of many a noble gest. *Fai. Qu.*

2. Show; representation.

Gests should be interlarded after the Persian manner, by ages, young and old.

3. The roll or journal of the several days, and stages prefixed, in the progress of our kings, many of them being still extant in the herald's office. [From *geste*, or *gite*, Fr.] *Hammer.*

To let him there a month, behind the gest,
Prefix'd for's parting. *Shakepeare's Winter's Tale.*

He distinctly sets down the gests and progress thereof; and are conceits of eminent use, to solve magnetical phenomenas. *Brown's Vulgar Errors, b. ii. c. 2.*

GESTATION. *n. f.* [gestatio, Latin.] The act of bearing the young in the womb.

Aristotle affirmeth the birth of the infant, or time of its gestation, extendeth sometimes unto the eleventh month; but Hippocrates avers that it exceedeth not the tenth. *Brown.*

Why in viviparous animals, in the time of gestation, should the nourishment be carried to the embryo in the womb, which at other times goeth not that way? *Ray on the Creation.*

To GESTICULATE. *v. n.* [gesticular, Latin; gesticular, Fr.] To play antic tricks; to throw postures. *Dist.*

GESTICULATION. *n. f.* [gesticulatio, Latin; gesticulation, Fr.] from *gesticulate*. Antic tricks; various postures.

GESTURE. *n. f.* [gestus, Latin; geste, French.]

1. Action or posture expressive of sentiment.

Ah, my sister, if you had heard his words, or seen his gestures,